



U.S. Department of Justice

Andrew E. Lelling
United States Attorney
District of Massachusetts

Main Reception: (617) 748-3100

John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse
1 Courthouse Way
Suite 9200
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

January 13, 2021

Sandra Gant, Esq.
Assistant Federal Public Defender
Federal Public Defender Office
51 Sleeper Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02210

Re: United States v. John Boampong
Criminal No. 20-cr-10321-WGY

Dear Attorney Gant:

The United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts (“the U.S. Attorney”) and your client, John Boampong (“Defendant”), agree as follows with respect to the above-referenced case:

1. Change of Plea

At the earliest practicable date, but in no event later than February 8, 2021, Defendant shall waive indictment and plead guilty to the filed Information charging him with: Count One: Interfering with a Law Enforcement Officer During the Commission of a Civil Disorder, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3); Count Two: Being a Prohibited Person under Felony Indictment in Possession of a Firearm and Ammunition, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 922(n); and Count Three: Assaulting a Federal Officer, Through the Use of a Dangerous or Deadly Weapon, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 111(a),(b). Defendant expressly and unequivocally admits that he committed the crimes charged in the Information, did so knowingly and intentionally, and is in fact guilty of those offenses.

The U.S. Attorney agrees not to charge Defendant pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) based on the conduct underlying the crimes charged in this case that is known to the U.S. Attorney at this time.

2. Penalties

Defendant faces the following non-incarceration maximum penalties on all Counts: supervised release for three years; a fine of \$250,000, restitution, forfeiture to the extent charged in the Information, and a mandatory special assessment of \$100 per count. The Defendant also faces the following maximum terms of incarceration: five years for Count One (Interfering with a Law Enforcement Officer During the Commission of a Civil Disorder), five years for Count Two (Being a Prohibited Person under Felony Indictment in Possession of a Firearm and Ammunition), and 20 years for Count Three (Assaulting a Federal Officer, Through the Use of a Dangerous or Deadly Weapon).

3. Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C) Plea

This Plea Agreement is made pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C), and Defendant's guilty plea will be tendered pursuant to that provision. In accordance with Rule 11(c)(1)(C), if the District Court ("Court") accepts this Plea Agreement, the Court must include the agreed disposition in the judgment. If the Court rejects any aspect of this Plea Agreement, the U.S. Attorney may deem the Plea Agreement null and void. Defendant understands and acknowledges that he may not withdraw his plea of guilty unless the Court rejects this Plea Agreement under Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(5). 

4. Sentencing Guidelines

The parties agree jointly to take the following positions at sentencing under the United States Sentencing Guidelines ("USSG" or "Guidelines"). The parties agree that Defendant's total adjusted offense level under the Guidelines is 24:

- All Counts group together because they pertain to a common set of events, with common victims;
- The Count with the highest Guideline Sentencing Range is Count Three (Assaulting a Federal Officer, Through the Use of a Dangerous or Deadly Weapon);
- According to the USSG Statutory Index, both USSG § 2A2.2 and § 2A2.4 apply to violations of 18 U.S.C. § 111;
- USSG § 2A2.2 is the most appropriate guideline provision and applies in this case because USSG § 2A2.4 (obstructing or impeding officers) directs that USSG § 2A2.2 applies in the case of "aggravated assault," and under USSG § 2A2.2 n.1, "[a]ggrevated assault' means a felonious assault that involved . . . (D) an intent to commit another felony," which in this case is the felony charged in Count One (Interfering with a Law Enforcement Officer During the Commission of a Civil Disorder);

- Pursuant to USSG § 2A2.2(a), Defendant's base offense level is 14;
- Defendant's offense level is increased by 5, because Defendant discharged a firearm (USSG § 2A2.2(b)(2)(A));
- Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the defendant is pleading guilty to § 111(b) pursuant to this plea agreement (assault with a deadly or dangerous weapon) (USSG § 2A2.2(b)(7));
- Defendant's offense level is increased by 6, because (i) the victims were government officers and employees, the offense of conviction was motivated by such status, and the applicable Chapter Two guideline is from Chapter Two, Part A (Offenses Against the Person) (see USSG § 3A1.2(b)), and also because (ii) in a manner creating a substantial risk of serious bodily injury, the defendant assaulted law enforcement officers during the course of the offense while knowing that they were law enforcement officers (USSG § 3A1.2(c)(1)); and
- Defendant's offense level is decreased by 3, because Defendant has accepted responsibility for Defendant's crime (USSG § 3E1.1).

The U.S. Attorney's agreement that the disposition set forth below is appropriate in this case is based, in part, on Defendant's prompt acceptance of personal responsibility for the offenses of conviction in this case.

The U.S. Attorney agrees not to charge Defendant with any additional offenses based on the conduct underlying the crimes charged that is known to the U.S. Attorney's Office at this time.

The U.S. Attorney may, at his sole option, be released from his commitments under this Plea Agreement, including, but not limited to, his agreement that Paragraph 5 constitutes the appropriate disposition of this case, if at any time between Defendant's execution of this Plea Agreement and sentencing, Defendant:

- (a) Fails to admit a complete factual basis for the plea;
- (b) Fails to truthfully admit Defendant's conduct in the offenses of conviction;
- (c) Falsely denies, or frivolously contests, relevant conduct for which Defendant is accountable under USSG § 1B1.3;
- (d) Fails to provide truthful information about Defendant's financial status;
- (e) Gives false or misleading testimony in any proceeding relating to the criminal conduct charged in this case and any relevant conduct for which

Defendant is accountable under USSG § 1B1.3;

- (f) Engages in acts that form a basis for finding that Defendant has obstructed or impeded the administration of justice under USSG § 3C1.1;
- (g) Intentionally fails to appear in Court or violates any condition of release;
- (h) Commits a crime;
- (i) Transfers any asset protected under any provision of this Plea Agreement; or
- (j) Attempts to withdraw Defendant's guilty plea.

Nothing in this Plea Agreement affects the U.S. Attorney's obligation to provide the Court and the U.S. Probation Office with accurate and complete information regarding this case.

5. Agreed Disposition

Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C), the U.S. Attorney and Defendant agree that the following is a reasonable and appropriate disposition of this case:

- (a) incarceration within a range of 42 to 63 months;
- (b) a fine within the Guidelines sentencing range as calculated by the parties, excluding departures, unless the Court finds that Defendant is not able, and is not likely to become able, to pay a fine;
- (c) 36 months of supervised release;
- (d) a mandatory special assessment of \$300, which Defendant must pay to the Clerk of the Court on or before the date of sentencing (unless Defendant establishes to the Court's satisfaction that Defendant is unable to do so);
- (e) restitution in an amount to be determined by the Court; and
- (f) forfeiture as set forth below.

Within the sentencing range agreed to by the parties, the sentence to be imposed upon Defendant is within the discretion of the Court, subject to the provisions of the advisory USSG and the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).

6. Waiver of Right to Appeal and to Bring Future Challenge

- (a) Defendant has conferred with his attorney and understands that he has the

right to challenge his conviction in the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit (“direct appeal”). Defendant also understands that, in some circumstances, Defendant may be able to challenge his conviction in a future proceeding (collateral or otherwise), such as pursuant to a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 or 28 U.S.C. § 2241. Defendant waives any right to challenge Defendant’s conviction on direct appeal or in any future proceeding (collateral or otherwise).

- (b) Defendant has conferred with his attorney and understands that defendants ordinarily have a right to challenge in a direct appeal their sentences (including any orders relating to the terms and conditions of supervised release, fines, forfeiture, and restitution) and may sometimes challenge their sentences (including any orders relating to the terms and conditions of supervised release, fines, forfeiture, and restitution) in a future proceeding (collateral or otherwise). The rights that are ordinarily available to a defendant are limited when a defendant enters into a Rule 11(c)(1)(C) agreement. In this case, Defendant waives any rights Defendant may have to challenge the agreed-upon sentence (including any agreement relating to the terms and conditions of supervised release, fines, forfeiture, and restitution) on direct appeal and in a future proceeding (collateral or otherwise), such as pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255 and 28 U.S.C. § 2241. Defendant also waives any right Defendant may have under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(2) to ask the Court to modify the sentence, even if the USSG are later amended in a way that appears favorable to Defendant. Likewise, Defendant agrees not to seek to be resentenced with the benefit of any change to Defendant’s Criminal History Category that existed at the time of Defendant’s original sentencing. Defendant also agrees not to challenge the sentence in an appeal or future proceeding (collateral or otherwise) even if the Court rejects one or more positions advocated by any party at sentencing. In sum, Defendant understands and agrees that in entering into this Plea Agreement, the parties intend that Defendant will receive the benefits of the Plea Agreement and that the sentence will be final.
- (c) The U.S. Attorney agrees that he will not appeal the imposition by the Court of a sentence within the sentencing range agreed to by the parties as set out in Paragraph 5, even if the Court rejects one or more positions advocated by either party at sentencing.
- (d) Regardless of the previous subparagraphs, Defendant reserves the right to claim that: (i) Defendant’s lawyer rendered ineffective assistance of counsel under *Strickland v. Washington*; or (ii) the prosecutor in this case engaged in misconduct that entitles Defendant to relief from Defendant’s conviction or sentence.

7. Forfeiture

Defendant understands that the Court will, upon acceptance of Defendant's guilty plea, enter an order of forfeiture as part of Defendant's sentence, and that the order of forfeiture may include assets directly traceable to Defendant's offense, assets used to facilitate Defendant's offense, substitute assets and/or a money judgment equal to the value of the property derived from, or otherwise involved in, the offense.

The assets to be forfeited specifically include, without limitation, the following:

- a. A Sig Sauer 9mm pistol, bearing serial # 58H007166; and
- b. One 9mm round of ammunition.

Defendant admits that these assets are subject to forfeiture on the grounds that they were involved in Defendant's offense. Defendant agrees to consent to the entry of orders of forfeiture for such property and waives the requirements of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11(b)(1)(J), 32.2, and 43(a) regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, advice regarding the forfeiture at the change-of-plea hearing, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment. Defendant understands and agrees that forfeiture shall not satisfy or affect any fine, lien, penalty, restitution, cost of imprisonment, tax liability or any other debt owed to the United States.

Defendant agrees to assist fully in the forfeiture of the foregoing assets. Defendant agrees to promptly take all steps necessary to pass clear title to the forfeited assets to the United States, including but not limited to executing any and all documents necessary to transfer such title, assisting in bringing any assets located outside of the United States within the jurisdiction of the United States, and taking whatever steps are necessary to ensure that assets subject to forfeiture are not sold, disbursed, wasted, hidden or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture. Defendant further agrees (a) not to assist any third party in asserting a claim to the forfeited assets in an ancillary proceeding, and (b) to testify truthfully in any such proceeding.

If the U.S. Attorney requests, Defendant shall deliver to the U.S. Attorney within 30 days after signing this Plea Agreement a sworn financial statement disclosing all assets in which Defendant currently has any interest and all assets over which Defendant has exercised control, or has had any legal or beneficial interest. Defendant further agrees to be deposed with respect to Defendant's assets at the request of the U.S. Attorney. Defendant agrees that the United States Department of Probation may share any financial information about the Defendant with the United States Attorney's Office.

Defendant also agrees to waive all constitutional, legal, and equitable challenges (including direct appeal, habeas corpus, or any other means) to any forfeiture carried out in accordance with this Plea Agreement.

Defendant hereby waives and releases any claims Defendant may have to any vehicles,

currency, or other personal property seized by the United States, or seized by any state or local law enforcement agency and turned over to the United States, during the investigation and prosecution of this case, and consents to the forfeiture of all such assets.

8. Civil Liability

By entering into this Plea Agreement, the U.S. Attorney does not compromise any civil liability, including but not limited to any tax liability, Defendant may have incurred or may incur as a result of Defendant's conduct and plea of guilty to the charges specified in Paragraph 1 of this Plea Agreement.

9. Withdrawal of Plea by Defendant or Rejection of Plea by Court

Should Defendant move to withdraw his guilty plea at any time, or should the Court reject the parties' agreed-upon disposition of the case or any other aspect of this Plea Agreement, this Plea Agreement shall be null and void at the option of the U.S. Attorney. In this event, Defendant agrees to waive any defenses based upon the statute of limitations, the constitutional protection against pre-indictment delay, and the Speedy Trial Act with respect to any and all charges that could have been timely brought or pursued as of the date of this Plea Agreement.

10. Breach of Plea Agreement

If the U.S. Attorney determines that Defendant has failed to comply with any provision of this Plea Agreement, has engaged in any of the activities set forth in Paragraph 4(a)-(j), has violated any condition of Defendant's pretrial release, or has committed any crime following Defendant's execution of this Plea Agreement, the U.S. Attorney may, at his sole option, be released from his commitments under this Plea Agreement in their entirety by notifying Defendant, through counsel or otherwise, in writing. The U.S. Attorney may also pursue all remedies available to him under the law, regardless whether he elects to be released from his commitments under this Plea Agreement. Further, the U.S. Attorney may pursue any and all charges which otherwise may have been brought against Defendant and/or have been, or are to be, dismissed pursuant to this Plea Agreement. Defendant recognizes that his breach of any obligation under this Plea Agreement shall not give rise to grounds for withdrawal of Defendant's guilty plea, but will give the U.S. Attorney the right to use against Defendant before any grand jury, at any trial or hearing, or for sentencing purposes, any statements made by Defendant and any information, materials, documents or objects provided by Defendant to the government, without any limitation, regardless of any prior agreements or understandings, written or oral, to the contrary. In this regard, Defendant hereby waives any defense to any charges that Defendant might otherwise have based upon any statute of limitations, the constitutional protection against pre-indictment delay, or the Speedy Trial Act.

11. Who is Bound by Plea Agreement

This Plea Agreement is limited to the U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts, and cannot and does not bind the Attorney General of the United States or any other federal, state or

local prosecutive authorities.

12. Modifications to Plea Agreement

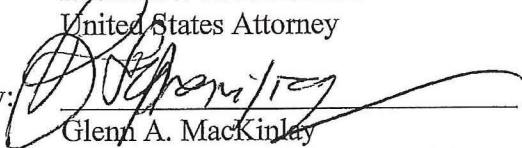
This Plea Agreement can be modified or supplemented only in a written memorandum signed by the parties or on the record in court.

If this letter accurately reflects the agreement between the U.S. Attorney and Defendant, please have Defendant sign the Acknowledgment of Plea Agreement below. Please also sign below as Witness. Return the original of this letter to Assistant U.S. Attorneys Scott L. Garland and John T. Dawley, Jr.

Very truly yours,

ANDREW E. LELLING
United States Attorney

By:


Glenn A. Mackinlay
Chief, Organized Crime Gang Unit
B. Stephanie Siegmann
Chief, National Security Unit


John T. Dawley, Jr.
Scott L. Garland
Assistant U.S. Attorneys

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PLEA AGREEMENT

I have read this letter in its entirety and discussed it with my attorney. I hereby acknowledge that (a) it accurately sets forth my plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts; (b) there are no unwritten agreements between me and the United States Attorney's Office; and (c) no official of the United States has made any unwritten promises or representations to me, in connection with my change of plea. In addition, I have received no prior offers to resolve this case. I understand the crimes to which I have agreed to plead guilty, the penalties for those offense, and the Sentencing Guideline penalties potentially applicable to them. I am satisfied with the legal representation provided to me by my attorney. We have had sufficient time to meet and discuss my case. We have discussed the charges against me, possible defenses I might have, the terms of this Plea Agreement and whether I should go to trial. I am entering into this Plea Agreement freely, voluntarily, and knowingly because I am guilty of the offenses to which I am pleading guilty and I believe this Plea Agreement is in my best interest.

John Boampong
John Boampong
Defendant

Date: 1/13/21

I certify that John Boampong has read this Plea Agreement and that we have discussed its meaning. I believe he understands the Plea Agreement and is entering into the Plea Agreement freely, voluntarily and knowingly. I also certify that the U.S. Attorney has not extended any other offers to resolve this matter.

Sandra Gant
Sandra Gant, Esq.
Assistant Federal Public Defender
Attorney for Defendant

Date: 1/22/21